revenue collected from each of the villages constituting the present Kattur constituency and the expenditure incurred annually on the improvement of each for the last four years?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.— Separate village-war accounts of revenue and expenditure are not maintained by the Government. It is not, therefore, possible to furnish the required information.

Economic Depression—relieving of.

59. Mr. E. Ikakanda Warriar.—Will the Government be pleased to state what steps, if any, they have taken to relieve the distress caused by the economic depression in the State?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Government have taken steps to relieve the economic depression in the State by granting special loans and liberal remissions of land revenue assessment. Considerable reductions in the land tax payable by ryots supplemented by generous remissions of land revenue under the ordinary rules, generous concessions to those who subsist by fisheries in this State, re-payable in easy instalments, the instructions given to the subordinate judiciary by the highest court of this land for a more liberal working of the Provisions of Civil Procedure Code in the way of regulating sales of properties and arrests of the persons of debtors and attempt to keep down high rates of interest by legislation, and liberal concession in commutation rates of dues payable to Government—all these palliatives constitute a record which speaks for itself. Government have been making continuous efforts to relieve agrarian distress in the State and if no outright solution of difficulty has been possible it is because of the difficulty of finding out what exactly the depression is due to.

Loan Department.

60. Mr. A. Narayana Menon.— Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(1) what did it cost the Government to run the Loans Department when Mr. C. P. Achyuta Menon was appointed as Special Loan Officer; what was the work done by the Department then;

(2) what is the monthly expenses incurred by the Government to run the present Loans Department, inclusive of salaries of clerks appointed in civil courts to collect statistics for the Department;

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(3) has the Department come to any definite conclusion as to grant of loan to any appplicant; if so, in how many cases and to what does the total loan recommended come to;

(4) how long should this Department work to disburse the 5 lakhs as ordered by the Government;

(5) what will be the total cost of maintaining the department till then;

(6) cannot the work entrusted to this Department be done by the Revenue Department;

(7) are not the questions of grants of agricultural loans entrusted to the Revenue Department;

(8) how long did it take for the Revenue Department to disburse the special agricultural loan granted as a boon by the late lamented Maharaja on his 70th birthday; what was the amount of the said loan?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—(1) Rs. 7,012—2—5.

The loan applications received till 15th Medam 1109 were investigated by the Special Loan Officer and his staff.

(2) Rs. 2,970 a month. (This does not include the T. A. of officers or contingent expenditure. The pay of the additional clerks appointed in the civil courts for a short period has also not been included).

(3) Yes; in 74 cases so far. The total loan amount recommended by the Special Loan Law Officers after scrutiny of title comes to Rs. 1,04,069—8—9.

(4) It is not possible to say exactly when the whole amount of Rs. 5 lakhs will be disbursed.

(5) In view of the answer given to sub-division (4) above, it is not possible to say what the exact cost will come to.

(6) No. The normal revenue staff, being already burdened with multifarious duties, cannot cope with this additional and responsible work, without prejudice to their own duties.

(7) Yes.

(8) 2 years; Rs. 1,00,000.

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